

# **Idaho Division of Professional-Technical Education**

## **Strategic Plan 2012-2016**



## **Idaho Division of Professional-Technical Education**

The Division of Professional-Technical Education is an integral part of the State Board of Education's strategic plan that envisions an accessible and a seamless public education system that results in a highly educated citizenry. Professional-technical education (PTE) provides Idaho's youth and adults with technical skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for performance in a highly effective workplace.

Idaho Code defines PTE as secondary, postsecondary and adult courses, programs, training and services administered by the Division of Professional-Technical Education for occupations or careers that require less than a baccalaureate degree. Close to eighty percent of Idaho's jobs do not require a baccalaureate degree. PTE programs prepare students for jobs and further education. A higher percentage of PTE high school completers go onto postsecondary education than the general Idaho population. PTE students at the high school level can articulate programs to the technical colleges. This provides students with an opportunity to earn portable, stackable credentials that can culminate with an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree. An important component of the technical college system is workforce training which focuses on short-term training for adults to retrain and upgrade their skills to meet labor market demands.

This plan provides direction for the professional-technical education system to deliver programs and services to people throughout the state. The strategic planning process is dynamic and encompasses PTE's continuous improvement philosophy. This plan builds on the efforts of dedicated PTE teachers and instructors; supportive administration and the participation of business and industry representatives in all PTE's programs.

Ann Stephens, State Administrator

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## **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Professional-Technical Education System is to provide Idaho's youth and adults with the technical skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for successful performance in a highly effective workplace.

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## **Vision Statement**

Economic vitality as well as quality of life is dependent on effective people equipped with the necessary skills, knowledge and attitudes to compete effectively, work efficiently and safely while balancing responsibilities to the family and the community. A qualified skilled workforce is essential to the competitiveness of Idaho's businesses and industries and the well-being and safety of Idaho's citizens. Professional-Technical Education is the delivery system that focuses on this need.

Professional-Technical Education is Idaho's public workforce education and training delivery system and is devoted to preparing students for occupations requiring less than a four year baccalaureate degree. This includes training for workers already in the workplace and for adults needing basic academic skills.

Quality, access, accountability, responsiveness and commitment to continuous improvement are hallmarks of Idaho's Professional-Technical Education System.

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## **KEY EXTERNAL FACTORS**

- Rapid technological change
- Diversification of Idaho's job market
- Supply of qualified instructors
- State and federal legislation
- State and national economic climates
- State employment rates

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## **AUTHORITY**

This strategic plan has been developed by the Division of Professional-Technical Education (DPTE) in compliance with Idaho Code, Chapter 19, Title 67, and Sections 67-1901 through 67-1905, as amended. It supersedes all previous DPTE strategic plans.

Statutory authority for the DPTE is delineated in Idaho Code, Chapter 22, and Sections 33-2201 through 33-2212. IDAPA 55 states the role of DPTE is to administer professional-technical education in Idaho and lists specific functions. Section 33-1002G allows school districts to establish professional-technical schools and 39-5009 established the displaced homemaker account for appropriation to the State Board of Professional-Technical Education.

**Goal 1: A Well Educated Citizenry** – *The educational system will provide opportunities for individual advancement.*

**Objective A: Access** – Provide access to professional-technical education programs and services.

**Performance Measures:**

- Provide resources to secondary and postsecondary programs and services.
- Inform Idahoans about professional-technical education, occupations, educational programs and institutions, and schools that offer professional-technical education programs.
- Expand professional-technical education offerings through alternative delivery options.
- Expand opportunities that help special populations participate in professional-technical programs and services.

**Benchmark:** Number of ABE clients who meet their stated goal will increase 2% each year.

- Increase the number of short-term training classes (including statewide fire and emergency services training programs).

**Benchmark:** The number of short-term training classes will increase by 2% each year.

**Objective B: Higher Level of Educational Attainment** – Increase the education attainment of Idahoans through participation and retention in Idaho's professional-technical education system.

**Performance Measures:**

- Support Advanced Learning Partnerships to develop articulation agreements between secondary and postsecondary professional-technical education programs.

**Benchmark:** Update 100% of articulation agreements annually.

- Increase the number of secondary professional-technical education completers (**concentrators**) who transition to postsecondary education or training.

**Benchmark:** The number of secondary professional-technical education completers (**concentrators**) who transition to postsecondary education or training will exceed the National Center for Higher Education Management System rankings in Idaho.

- Percentage of postsecondary students who are retained in professional-technical programs.

**Benchmark:** Postsecondary completer rate will be at least 70%.

**Objective C: Adult Learner Re-Integration** – Improve the processes and increase the options for re-integration of adult learners into the professional-technical educational system.

**Performance Measures:**

- Establish bridge programs in the technical colleges.  
**Benchmark:** One bridge program will be available at each technical college.
- Provide professional development opportunities for postsecondary counselors/advisors.  
**Benchmark:** Increase number of professional development activities for postsecondary counselors/advisors.

**Objective D: Transition** – Improve the ability of the professional-technical education system to meet educational needs and allow students to efficiently and effectively transition into the workforce.

**Performance Measures:**

- Maintain high placement rates for technical college completers.  
**Benchmark:** Postsecondary professional-technical education completer job placement rate will be a minimum of 75%.
- Percentage of postsecondary professional-technical education completers who obtain positive placement.  
**Benchmark:** Postsecondary professional-technical education completer positive placement rate will be a minimum of 90%.

**Goal 2: Critical Thinking and Innovation** – *The educational system will provide an environment for the development of new ideas, and practical and theoretical knowledge to foster the development of individuals who are entrepreneurial, broadminded, think critically, and are creative.*

**Objective B: Innovation and Creativity** – Educate students who will contribute creative and innovative ideas to enhance society.

**Performance Measure:**

- Promote business and industry internships, apprenticeships, and work-based learning in professional-technical education program.  
**Benchmark:** New program applications will include internships, apprenticeships, or work-based experiences.

**Objective C: Quality Instruction** – Improve the quality of Idaho's professional-technical education system.

**Performance Measures:**

- Recruit and retain qualified professional-technical educators.
- Ensure that professional-technical education programs meet industry standards and employer expectations.  
**Benchmark:** Postsecondary professional-technical education completers job placement rate will be a minimum of 75%.
- Support implementation of Technical Skill Assessments (TSA) at the secondary and postsecondary levels.  
**Benchmark:** The number of PTE concentrators who take state approved TSA's will increase 10% each year.
- Promote and provide professional development opportunities for teachers, instructors, and counselors.  
**Benchmark:** Increase participation at annual summer conference by 2% each year.

**Goal 3: Effective and Efficient Delivery Systems** – *Ensure educational resources are used efficiently.*

**Objective A: Cost Effective and Fiscally Prudent** - Ensure effective and efficient use of professional-technical education resources.

**Performance Measures:**

- Review, revise, and implement policies to make efficient use of professional-technical education system resources.
- Ensure funds designated for the professional-technical education system are efficiently managed to support the role and mission.
- Maintain efficient financial and accounting systems for the Division and the professional-technical education system.

**Objective B: Data-Driven Decision Making** Increase the quality, thoroughness, and accessibility of data for informed decision-making of Idaho's educational system

**Performance Measures:**

- Postsecondary professional-technical education student completion rate.  
**Benchmark:** Postsecondary professional-technical education student completion rate will be a minimum of 70%.
- Postsecondary professional-technical education completer positive placement rate.  
**Benchmark:** Postsecondary professional-technical education completer positive placement rate will be a minimum of 90%.
- Average number of credits earned at completion of Associate of Applied Science degree program.  
**Benchmark:** All new AAS Degree programs will not exceed 72 credits.
- Participate in the secondary and postsecondary longitudinal data system with the ability to access timely and relevant professional-technical education data.  
**Benchmark:** Secondary – access timely and relevant professional-technical education data by 2012.  
**Benchmark:** Postsecondary – access timely and relevant professional-technical education data no later than 2015.